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Symposium: Environmental Dredging in the Great Lakes Basin: Introductory Remarks

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

HENRY NOWAK*

This Symposium was requested by the House Subcommittee on Water Resources in order to broaden an acknowledged narrow base of information on environmental dredging. To succeed in this endeavor and to assess various effects of environmental dredging, experts were brought together to discuss the topic from their respective positions. The fields of expertise represented were indeed vast; accordingly, the five discussions that follow are representative of the range of insight into, and interest in, the policy issues and scientific realities (or uncertainties) regarding environmental dredging.

The findings and conclusions of the five authors are by no means intended to be an exhaustive review of the subject.¹ However, it is hoped that they will aid in determining the best methods of environmental dredging, and will result in faster, more efficient remediation of toxic sediments, not only in the Great Lakes region, but wherever toxic-sediment problems exist throughout the world's waters.

* B.A. 1957, Canisius College; J.D. 1961, University of Buffalo School of Law. Henry Nowak was Representative for Western New York's 33d District from 1975-92. While serving in Congress, he was the Chairman of the Water Resource Subcommittee of the House Public Works Committee.

1. Further technical and scientific literature from this symposium can be obtained through the *Buffalo Environmental Law Journal*. Ed.